



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact:

Jeff Burks, 801-538-5414
Gina Fleischer, 801 538-4781

PowerForward Pays Off – Utahns Conserve 100 Megawatts

Savings Is Equivalent to Supplying Over 50,000 Homes

SALT LAKE CITY, July 26 – Utahns came through in a big way to support the state's PowerForward conservation campaign during the first half of July. Gov. Mike Leavitt announced today that Utahns conserved 100 megawatts of electricity on "yellow" alert days.

That's enough power to supply 51,300 houses – about 7 percent of all households in the state – for a day. In power plant terms, 100 megawatts is roughly equal to the amount of power created daily by five of Utah Power's natural gas generators near the Gadsby Plant just west of downtown Salt Lake City, or about a quarter of the daily power generation of the Hunter II plant in Emery County.

"I'm tremendously encouraged that Utahns rallied around the call for conservation during our hot spell in early July – their efforts made a huge impact," said Gov. Leavitt. "I want to thank Utahns for their diligence and support. They've shown that, together, we can manage our resources wisely, now and for the future."

Yellow alerts are called when weather conditions and regional power-supply conditions coincide to push the state's expected power needs above available supply. The idea is to increase conservation on those days to prevent Utah's utility companies from having to pay high prices on

the spot market to meet demand. Those spot-market prices eventually get passed on to customers in the form of rate hikes. On yellow days, power users are encouraged to avoid non-essential power use between 2 and 8 p.m., raise thermostats to 78 degrees or higher and turn off non-critical appliances not in use.

Most summer days are "green" PowerForward days, calling for normal, common sense conservation, such as turning off lights and TVs when you leave a room and doing laundry after 8 p.m. or on weekends. "Red" days occur when power generation and transmission condition are threatening electricity supplies. Conservation on red days is critical to maintain electric system reliability. No red days are expected this year.

About PowerForward and Business Partners

The PowerForward energy conservation program was introduced by the Utah Energy Office on June 21. PowerForward is a joint effort of Gov. Leavitt, the Utah Energy Office, Utah Power/PacifiCorp, Utah Associated Municipal Power Systems (UAMPS) and the Utah Municipal Power Agency (UMPA).

In addition, a number of major business partners have joined the effort, each having made a commitment to invest in energy efficiency and/or reduce their power consumption. Those announced today are Zions Bank Corporation, Smith's Food & Drug, Costco, Home Depot, RC Hunt Electric and Wasatch Properties, ATK Thiokol Propulsion, and Intermountain Healthcare.

For more information about PowerForward, visit www.powerforward.utah.gov and sign up to be notified of alert changes via e-mail or pager.

#